



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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For Immediate Release

March 6, 2009

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Vessel General Permit issued by EPA

BATON ROUGE – On December 18, 2008, EPA issued the final Vessel General Permit. The VGP regulates certain water discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels in excess of 79 feet that function in a capacity as “a means of transportation.”

Vessels not subject to the permit include the following:

- Recreational vessels, as defined in section 502(25) of the Clean Water Act;
- All commercial fishing vessels, regardless of length; and
- Non-recreational vessels (except water ballast discharges) measuring less than 79 feet in length.

The EPA is implementing the permit, and is in charge of enforcement. Further information can be obtained via the EPA Web site, at http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program_id=350.